SUBJECTS.

Dewan's reply.—A Tahsildar will be appointed for the Shertallai taluk with first class powers.

43. Tea thefts.

Mr. H. C. Westaway (Member, the Central Travancore and the Mundakayam Planters' Associations) said that thefts of tea from the factories were of common occurrence. In the case of rubber, there was a Regulation to prevent thefts of the stuff. He then related one instance of theft of tea and said that such thefts could be prevented if a system of license be introduced. Every merchant or trader who sold tea should be asked to take out a license before doing so. Unless some such thing were done, there would not be sufficient protection under the ordinary provisions of the criminal law, especially because tea was now coming into favor and was being largely sold in all parts of the country.

Dewan's reply.—Noted. The advantage in the case of rubber is that, unlike tea, it cannot be used locally.

44. The desirability of retaining the Pudukkada Police Outpost.

Mr. K. Raman Tampi (Member, Vilavancode taluk) said that the places within the jurisdiction of the Pudukkada substation were more populous and contained comparatively more rich people than the surrounding places. It would be evident from an examination of the register of the station that convicts and K. D's. were more abundant there. The major portion of the cases filed in the Vilavancode Magistrate's Court was from Pudukkada. Of the three sub-stations in the vicinity, *viz.*, Pudukkada, Kaliyikkavila and Arumana, Pudukkada alone was ordered to be abolished, even though the Government recognised its importance by appointing five constables for the sub-station whereas only three were allowed to each of the other two. Near Pudukkada, a class of Pariahs, notorious for their dacoity, were living, and to keep them under some check, the station was necessary. There was a Magistrate's Court at the place. That was superseded by a Police Station, and if even that was taken away from the place, there would be no public safety. He therefore requested that a station be re-established there, and if that was not possible at once, that a few village watchmen be provided for the place.

Dewan's reply.—The District Magistrate will be asked to report on the matter.

(3) Civil Justice.

45. Certain irregularities in the Civil Courts and suggestions for remedying them.

Mr. Narayanar Janardanar (Member, Nominated) said that the Travancore Civil Procedure Code required modifications in several respects and suggested that it be re-enacted on the lines of the British Indian Act V of 1908. He then referred to some of the inconveniences to the people owing to the irregularities in the Courts and submitted proposals for remedying them.

(1) In several civil suits, the first summonses were not personally served and substituted service became the usual practice. The result was that several suits were decided *ex-parte*, and when execution proceedings were initiated, the cases were re-taken on the file under Section 103 of the Code. The loss and inconvenience to the plaintiff were very great. He suggested that the summonses should be sent in a closed cover

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